expedite implementation of the Project agreement or as an arbitrator in case of dispute on water sharing or cost sharing.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that while some broad parameters of the scope and sharing of cost benefit of the Lendi Project has been agreed with the Government of Maharashtra, Inter-State agreement has not yet been concluded.

Lift Irrigation Scheme below Ichampalli Project

2520. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for declaring Ichampalli Project as a national project;

(b) if so, when such a request was received in the Ministry of Water Resources;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a Project Report for a lift irrigation scheme below the Ichampalli Project;

(d) if so, when such a request was received in the Ministry of Water Resources; and

(e) the steps so far contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh wrote to the Prime Minister on 28.6.1999 and again on 22.1.2001 requesting for treating the Inchampalli and Polavaram Projects as National Projects. There is no proposal to treat any such Irrigation/Multipurpose projects as National Projects. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was informed accordingly by the Minister (Water Resources) on 20.2.2001.

(c) and (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have on 29.5.2001 submitted a pre feasibility report of the Godavari Lift Irrigation Scheme envisaging construction of a lift scheme 16 km. below Inchampalli on Godavari to lift 50 TMC and irrigate about 200 th. ha. in the districts of Karimnagar, Warangal, Nalgonda & Medak in

Andhra Pradesh out of which 78 th. ha. is in Warangal district, Since the project being located in lower Godavari sub basin G-10 the Government of Andhra Pradesh can utilise all water of Lower Godavari sub-basin, as per the award of the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal.

(e) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been asked by Ministry of Water Resources to submit the Detailed Project Report for techno-economic appraisal in the Central Water Commission and thereafter for the consideration of investment clearance from the Planning Commission.

Water harvesting in Rajasthan

2521. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a detailed study has been made of the innovative water harvesting and storage schemes being tried and implemented in the desert State of Rajasthan, which have reportedly helped the villagers towards easy access to and availability of water and even to grow cash crops;

(b) if so, the major lessons, drawn from these schemes for their effective use and implementation at the national level; and

(c) the steps taken to provide such model schemes to other water deficient States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources has made studies of water harvesting and storage schemes under a pilot scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" during Ninth Five Year Plan. Under this Scheme, 18 projects have been approved in the districts of Jaipur, Udaipur, Sikar and Jhunjhunu.

(b) The demonstration of these schemes have proved that the water harvesting schemes are beneficial even in low rainfall regions. Public need to be made aware, motivated and involved for successful implementation of water harvesting programmes.